

Message Text

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SUBJECT: EDITORIAL IN IRISH INDEPENDENT JANUARY 6, 1978

FOLLOWING EDITORIAL APPEARED IN IRISH INDEPENDENT JANUARY
6, 1978 UNDER HEADING USEFUL MISSION:

BEGIN TEXT

PRESIDENT CARTER'S QUICK TOUR THROUGH THE WORLD ENDS TODAY
WHEN HE VISITS BRUSSELS - AND SAYS HIS PIECE ABOUT THE
COMMON MARKET. IT IS A TOUR WHICH DID NOT GET OFF TO A
GOOD START - THAT INTERPRETER IN WARSAW ALMOST RECEIVED MORE
PUBLICITY THAN THE PRESIDENT - AND AT ONE STAGE ALMOST
CAUSED A DIPLOMATIC INCIDENT - THE SOUND TECHNICIAN IN
INDIA WHO HEARD MORE THAN HE SHOULD HAVE- BUT IT APPEARS TO
HAVE PRODUCED AT LEAST ONE GOOD RESULT.

THIS WILL MAKE ITSELF FELT IN THE MIDDLE EAST TALKS IN
THE NEXT FEW WEEKS WHEN, ACCORDING TO MIDDLE EAST
REPORTS, THE UNITED STATES, ISRAEL AND EGYPT WILL MAKE
A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLE ABOUT THE COURSE OF EVENTS
THERE. AND AFTER THAT THE KING OF JORDAN WILL JOIN THE
THREE IN FURTHER TALKS ON THE PROBLEM OF THE WEST
BANK.

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THIS OUTCOME CAN ONLY HAVE BEEN MADE POSSIBLE FIRST BY
THE PRESIDENT'S TALKS WITH THE KING OF JORDAN IN IRAN AND LATER
WITH THE PRESIDENT OF EGYPT IN ASWAN WHERE A REMARKABLE
DEGREE OF ACCORD WAS REACHED.

EVEN IN THE LIMITED CONVERSATIONS PRESIDENT CARTER

HAD WITH THE VARIOUS LEADERS IT WAS POSSIBLE FOR THEM TO ARRIVE AT SOME CONSENSUS. THE MODERATE ARABS CAN BE EXPECTED TO HAVE SOME INFLUENCE ON THE PALESTINIANS WHILE THE UNITED STATES IS BOUND TO WIELD SOME INFLUENCE ON ISRAEL'S FUTURE ATTITUDE.

IF THIS CONCLUSION IS CORRECT THEN THE PRESIDENT'S TOUR, FAR FROM BEING THE "GIMMICKY" AFFAIR IS APPEARED TO BE AT FIRST WILL PROVE EXTREMELY USEFUL. ON OTHER FRONTS, TOO, HE WAS ABLE TO GET A WESTERN VIEWPOINT ACROSS. THE POLES - AND THEREFORE THE NEIGHBOURING RUSSIANS - WERE REMINDED OF HIS CONTINUING INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS, AND THE INDIANS WERE TOLD - IN FORTHRIGHT TERMS, IT SEEMS, - OF AMERICA'S FEARS ABOUT THEIR NUCLEAR PROGRAMME. KRENE

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